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EDITORIAL

## KNIVES UP THEIR SLEEVES, BOTH.

By DANIEL DE LEON

**T**HE New York *Evening Post* is a supporter of Parker. Its particular objection to Roosevelt is his defiance of law and general “lawless mind.” To read that paper’s steady flow of anti-Roosevelt editorials one might imagine that what Parker has up his sleeves is a collection of Bibles and hymn books, and that, as to the *Evening Post* itself, it is a close second to the Prince of Peace. Thus, at any rate, would the unsophisticated reader opine, forgetful, or perhaps even ignorant of the fact that it was that very *Evening Post* that coined the phrase of the “rifle-diet” for the workers whenever they dared to disturb the “realms” of the railroad companies. But true to the saying that ducks will tend to the water and goats to the mountain, the *Evening Post* is just blossoming into luxuriantly headed special correspondent reports from Colorado on Adj.-Gen. Sherman Bell; and what is more to the point it is publishing the facts concerning that brigand unblushingly, with unblushing praise.

Of the many instances quoted in that special correspondence, going to show the Rooseveltian bandit spirit of Sherman Bell and the mine-owners, we shall just quote two. Sherman Bell has the floor; he is detailing the “jobs” he did:

“The gang I was after tried to give me trouble. They began getting out habeas corpus papers. I stood it a little while; then I said to a couple of the district judges: ‘See here! We’ve had too much habeas corpus. Now, you’d better go a little slow on such monkey business, or you may wake up some morning in the bull-pen yourselves!’ That settled things down for a while.”

Could Roosevelt, the swash-buckler despised of the monstrously moral *Evening Post*, show greater contempt for “law” and “precedents” and “civilization” than this Bell, who, sword in hand, terms the acts of judges “monkey business,” and threatens them with the bull-pen if they do not desist?

“But,” is the answer implied in the Parkerite *Evening Post’s* headings, “these judges were the accomplices of the miners, and these miners were a gang of riotous murderers, they were all assassins in conspiracy.” Very well, now let Sherman Bell himself again speak through the applauding columns of the Parkerite *Evening Post*:

“Lots of those other miners you hear about being deported, weren’t really deported — they deported themselves. **THEY CONCLUDED TO GO IN A CAR INSTEAD OF WAITING FOR A COFFIN.** Some of ’em walked—they were in too much of a hurry to wait for a train. They were a badly scared lot, I tell you. **IF THE MINE-OWNERS HAD GOT AT THEM, WHEN I STOPPED IT, THERE WOULDN’T HAVE BEEN A FEDERATION MAN LEFT TO TELL THE STORY.**”

Who, then, were the actual “riotous murderers,” “assassins in conspiracy”? According to that very passage by Bell himself, it was the mine-owners—a fact that every sane man knew before, and every decent man had before stated.

So that is the hero of the *Evening Post*? Give a scamp rope and he will hang himself. The rope enjoyed by the *Evening Post* has hanged it, its false pretences, and its party.

Parker or Roosevelt, Roosevelt or Parker—either and both carry but knives up their sleeves for the working class. They may call each other names, as the *Evening Post* is now calling Roosevelt, but that only happens when they tread on the corns of each other’s particular interests. The Panama Canal is against certain railroad interests that own the *Evening Post*, hence its rage at the unquestionable lawlessness of Roosevelt’s conduct toward Columbia, but the mine-workers of Colorado have in turn interfered with these railroad interests, and, presto, the *Evening Post* has only plaudits for the ruffian who rides rough-shod over Colorado law as so much “monkey business.”

The Democratic and Republican parties—capitalists both—must be hammered out of existence with the Uplifted Arm and Hammer of the Socialist Labor Party to the this year’s tune of—“Corregan and Cox!”

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official Web site of the Socialist Labor Party of America.

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